

## CLAIMS:

1. An actuating apparatus for a rapid coupling for transferring gaseous and/or liquid fluids, comprising a tubular housing (11) and a slide (41) which is mounted in a manner that enables it to be displaced relative to the housing and which is coupled with a lever mechanism (42), characterized in that the lever mechanism (42) comprises at least one pivoting lever (43) which is laterally mounted on the housing (11).

2. An actuating apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that two pivoting levers (43) are provided on both sides on the housing (11) in a mirror-inverted manner.

3. An actuating apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the front surface of the pivoting lever(s) (43) pressurizes a slide ring (40) of a rotary transmission leadthrough on the outlet side.

4. An actuating apparatus according to one of the claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the lever mechanism (42) comprises two superimposed levers (47, 47'), with the inner lever (47) resting on a roller (46) which is connected with the slide (41).

5. An actuating apparatus according to claim 4, characterized in that the contact surface of the lever (47) is arranged towards the roller (46) as a wedge surface (47a).

6. An actuating apparatus according to claim 4 or 5, characterized in that the lever (47) is guided in a connecting link (49) of the housing (11).

7. An actuating apparatus according to one of the claims 1 to 6, characterized in that an outlet valve (25) and an inlet valve (35) are provided in the housing, between which there is arranged a venting valve (60) which can be actuated by the slide (41).

8. An actuating apparatus according to one of the claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the pivoting lever (43) is connected with a hand lever (50) via a lever (47'), with preferably a pin (48') being provided as a joint, on which the second lever (47) of the lever mechanism (42) is also mounted.

9. An actuating apparatus according to one of the claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the front surface (43') of the pivoting lever (43) comprises an initially flatter incline for force multiplication on the slide ring (40).

10. An actuating apparatus according to one of the claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the connection process of the rapid coupling (10) is controlled at least partly by the lever

mechanism (42), especially the lever (47) guided in the connecting link (49) or a switching valve cooperating with the hand lever (50), especially the sequential control of the valves (25, 35 and/or 60) within the housing (11).